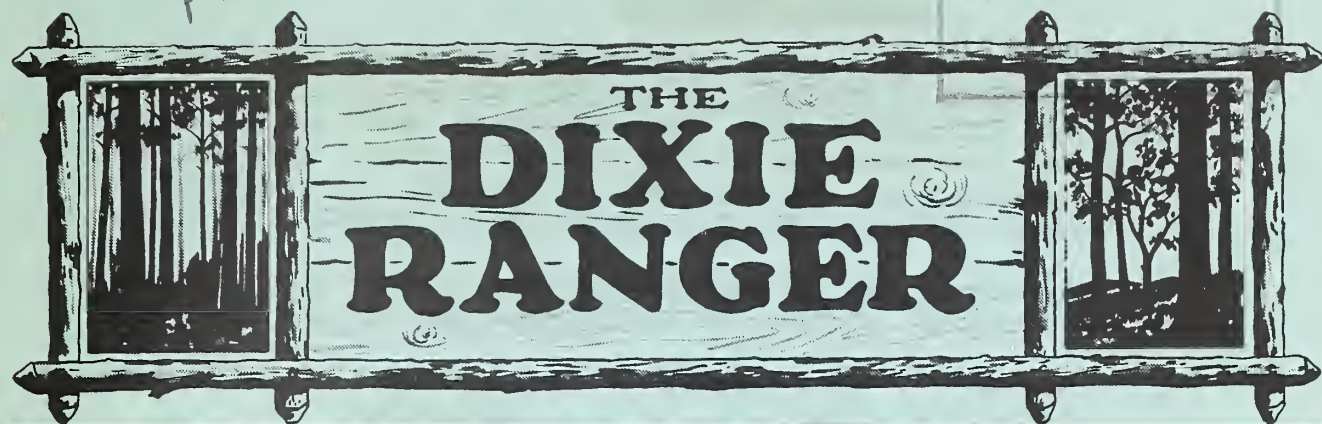


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UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE - SOUTHERN REGION

VOLUME 6

Atlanta, Georgia - November 1940

VOLUME 11

SET EXAMPLE - NOT FIRES -

SAYS REGIONAL FORESTER

During a number of recent field trips I have been disturbed at the extent to which forest officers smoke while in the woods. As you know, most of the western regions entirely prohibit smoking except at designated spots during the more critical parts of the fire season. While anything this stringent ordinarily is not necessary in the South, we still have quite a lot of smoker fires, and forest officers should set an example to men working in the woods and those there for recreational and other purposes. I see no objection to smoking while riding in a car or while walking down a wide road with well cleared road banks or even when resting in the woods, but when a man is out on a woods road or trail, scaling, marking timber, or performing other work which takes him right into the inflammable material he should refrain from smoking. I do not want to invoke any drastic closures or rules and am sure that upon having the matter brought to your attention in this manner you will appreciate the reasonableness of my position and make further action unnecessary.

--- JOSEPH C. KIRCHER
Regional Forester

PULPWOOD PRODUCTION

Thirty-two pulp mills in the South consumed 4,120,000 cords of pine pulpwood in the year 1939 and will use an additional 250,000 cords, more or less, in 1940. Three additional mills now building should come into production in 1941 with an additional capacity of 120,000 cords a year. The great gain in 1941 will be in expanded capacities of present mills which should exceed 200,000 cords a year.

The cut of pine pulpwood for 1939 was remarkably well spread over the producing territory as the following percentages indicate:

Florida	14.3 percent	Louisiana	11.0 percent
Mississippi	13.8 "	S. Carolina	11.0 "
Arkansas	13.6 "	Alabama	8.6 "
Georgia	12.4 "	Texas	2.8 "
N. Carolina	12.1 "	Tennessee	.4 "

The cut of hardwoods was slightly over 500,000 cords, 86,000 cords of this being dead chestnut.

Thirty-one percent of the pine pulpwood cut in Region 8 moved over State lines, thus entering interstate commerce, and 69 percent was consumed in the same State in which the mill was located.

--- Clinton G. Smith
Regional Office

MORE ABOUT TREE MEASUREMENT SALES IN SOUTH CAROLINA

The first tree measurement sale in second growth loblolly and shortleaf pine on the Sumter was made with considerable detail. We literally swarmed over each tree, acting with the suspicion characteristic of a horse trader feeling out a bargain.

Although our results were close, our checks of form factor indicated the volume tables employed were applicable, and defect was found to be minor, we doubted the necessity of such detail as we had initially employed. We thus decided to "shoot the works" on the next sale, using Girard's form class 78 and 80 tables for second growth loblolly and shortleaf pine respectively; to allow small deductions for defect; to measure each tree with a diameter tape, and to record logs only in terms of 16 foot lengths.

The first sale under this streamlined system embraced 496 trees, ranging in diameters from 10 to 30 inches. The estimated net log scale, on a basis of 5% deduction for defect, was 100,680 board

feet. The indicated overrun was 6.7%. The purchaser reported a cut of 110,000 feet, green lumber tally, this indicating an overrun of about 9%. A check scale on the basis of 20% of the marked trees indicated we were 2% low on gross scale and 4% low on net scale; further, that cull was 2.7% rather than 5%.

For the pure pleasure of figuring "what might have been", had we known that the cull would be only 2.7% we "might" have advertised 103,117 feet, which, increased by the indicated 6.7% overrun, would have implied 110,026 feet lumber tally. We wonder if the purchaser got that additional 26 feet.

A follow-up sale of large-sized trees, computed to afford no overrun, was sold on the basis of 33,420 board feet, log scale. The purchaser's green lumber tally was 33,454 feet.

Suffice to say, we cannot expect such exactitude to continue. We are pleased with a system which is roughly halving our administration costs on small sales, and will be disappointed if our check scales indicate errors greater than 10%. Further, our operators are delighted with a system which allows them to bid lump sums.

--- Norman R. Hawley
South Carolina

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"WATER - PURE AND PLENTIFUL"

This might be called the "running" title of the catchy and attractive folder issued by the Chamber of Commerce, Hendersonville, North Carolina and authorized by the Board of Water Commissioners.

In its best manner, the Chamber of Commerce tells the world the advantages of a national forest-protected watershed. The folder is in white and green and profusely illustrated with pictures of the reservoir, forested mountain background and views of mountain streams. On one side the cover bears the title "Hendersonville's Unusual Watershed in Pisgah National Forest" and on the other side, "Hendersonville's Pure Water from Pisgah National Forest."

The first two paragraphs of the folder tell this story: "Hendersonville is supplied by water which is recognized far and wide for its abundant protection, its unusual purity, and its delightful palatability.

"This water, in volume far in excess of the city's present needs, flows by gravity, from the deeply forested, and uninhabited slopes of the beautiful Pisgah National Forest. It is exceptionally cold, soft and unusually pure and temptingly palatable."

Continuing, the folder states: "Hendersonville's watershed not only has the protection usually afforded by large, forested areas but in addition is patrolled by Federal officers whose duty it is to know the purpose, movements and conduct of those who are privileged to visit the national forests. Few cities are so fortunately situated as to have this double protection against the possible pollution of any of the springs or streams within the boundaries of the watershed, which lies wholly within the Pisgah National Forest."

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CHEROKEE HUNTING NOTES

The Cherokee's fifth annual wild boar hunt opened with several bangs early on the morning of Thursday, October 31. Thirteen hunters checked into the Bald River unit, a party of seven hunters entered North River and a party of ten was assigned to hunt Tellico River.

The real feature, however, was the Citico bear hunt. Daniel Boone, Nashville Attorney and descendant of the original Daniel Boone, checked in with a party of fifteen hunters for the first bear hunt to be held in Tennessee in many years. In Boone's party was Mrs. Edith Padgett of Tellico Plains, who has quite a reputation as a huntress from her success in previous boar hunts. Her renown is even greater now, for she killed the first game of the hunt - a magnificent 400-pound black bruin.

Other hunters the first day bagged another bear and three wild boar. One hunter braved a heavy rain the next day and got another wild boar, and a fifth hog was killed the third day.

--- E. M. Gaines,
Cherokee

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Atlanta, Ga. - Perfection of a method for removing wood from flax fiber by machinery and spinning flax fiber with machinery now used in cotton mills is announced by engineers at the Georgia School of Technology.

The development of the wood-removing device was the result of five years' experimenting and eliminates the main obstacle which has prevented the Southern farmer from growing flax at a profit. It also may be expected to free the United States of its dependence on imported flax, now difficult to obtain because of the war.

(Now York Times)

WHODUNIT AND WHY?

Walter S. Brown, Director of the Extension Service in Georgia has been making some studies to obtain information concerning the causes of uncontrolled fires in Georgia's woods. These studies were conducted through the district and county extension agents. Ten or more representative farmers in each county were selected and requested to fill out and return a questionnaire on "Why People Burn the Woods."

The Extension Service has now announced the results of this campaign, the replies to which brought twenty different reasons, shown in the tabulation below. To provide better and earlier grazing headed the list. Making moonshine came far down the list, and only two percent blamed smokers, hunters and fishermen.

	N. E. Ga.	N. W. Ga.	S. E. Ga.	S. W. Ga.	STATE TOTAL
Better or Earlier Grazing	42	34	161	120	357
Kill Snakes and Insects	61	84	84	96	325
Ignorance, Indifference and Careless- ness	86	86	60	87	319
Destroy Boll Weevils	74	57	48	64	243
Reduce Hazard	4	7	63	42	118
Burning Fields, Terraces and Hedgerows	22	40	7	32	101
Spite or Malice	13	13	21	17	64
Burn Out Rabbits	3	9	5	28	45
Thrill	13	7	9	15	44
Smokers	10	17	3	5	35
Better Working Conditions for Turpentine Workers	-	-	20	14	34
Hunters and Fishers	10	13	3	3	32
Habit or Custom	2	7	7	6	22
Clear Out Underbrush	2	6	5	6	19
Good for Timber	2	5	2	8	17
Improve Habitat for Game	-	-	4	3	10
Moonshiners	3	4	-	2	9
Protect Fences and Building	-	-	-	4	4
Sawmills	2	1	-	1	4
Railroad	-	1	-	2	3
Total					1800

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The Regional Office extends sincerest sympathy to Mrs. Sarah Kelly of CCC, whose sister, Mrs. Judson M. Garner of Atlanta, Ga. died on November 4, 1940.

FLORIDA SALESMANSHIP

To win public recognition of national forest values and to secure the cooperation of other public agencies means that somebody is working hard behind the scenes. Frequent examples of such work in the Florida National Forests drifts into the Regional Office. One of the latest was a letter from W. L. Quinlan, Director of the Recreation Advisory Committee of the Florida State Planning Board addressed to members of the Board.

Attached to the letter was a three-page article on "Recreation in our Florida National Forests" which was the subject of Mr. Quinlan's letter and about which he says in part:

"This informative article on our National Forests in Florida has been prepared for you by Frank A. Albert, Supervisor, Florida National Forests.

"Mr. Albert is, as you know, on the staff of the United States Forest Service. Under his administration of our National Forests, excellent progress has been made in the development of recreation areas and facilities within the Forests.

"I believe that our Committee can be of material help to Mr. Albert in bringing about the attainment of his objectives. Mr. Davis, chairman of the Sub-committee on National Forests, will give additional details concerning this phase of our Program at the November meeting.

"In the meantime, will you give thought to how we could be of service in the development of the various phases of recreation embraced in our National Forests?"

The last paragraph of Mr. Quinlan's letter is the pay-off for the time and trouble involved in the preparation of the very fine article which Mr. Albert's office contributed.

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ANOTHER SOUTHERN "FIRST"

The superior watershed protective value of the Pisgah National Forest is becoming almost as famous as that conversation between the Governor of North Carolina and the Governor of South Carolina. Elsewhere in this issue is an article about Hendersonville's water supply and now Clinton G. Smith of the Regional Office brings to our attention some interesting information concerning the Ecusta Paper Corporation, Pisgah Forest, North Carolina, which manufactures cigarette paper.

Mr. Smith brought us samples of this Southern-made cigarette paper, which had been an exclusive French product before World War I caused a new industry to move west.

Prior to and during the World War, the cigarette paper used in America was imported from France. General belief among manufac-

turers was that certain qualities in the water in France were absolutely necessary in making cigarette paper of the fineness demanded by American makers and smokers, and that this water, so necessary in correct processing, could not be found in America, Manufacturers accepting this idea as a fact imported the French paper.

Foreseeing the possibility of future shipping dangers should another world war break out, the officials of the Ecusta Corporation began study of and experimentation with American flax fibre, and use of American water. Years were devoted to study and experiment and at last success was attained. Selection of a site was the next step in setting up the plant which was to revolutionize the cigarette paper industry in America, and after careful study of many locations for adequate water supply of the required pureness, Davidson river in the timber-clad North Carolina mountains was decided upon. Here was sufficient volume of water, ready for utilization within a few miles of its source in the government-protected watersheds of Pisgah National Forest. Tests over a period of months showed the crystal waters of the mountain stream to be near-perfect. Other factors, such as nearness to railway and available source of labor were checked and announcements of plans for the new plant were made in May, 1938, and within a little over one year's time the plant was in operation.

In August 1939 actual paper was made at this plant from raw flax, instead of linen rags, which were used in France before the Ecusta mill began operations. With practically all of Europe involved again in war, the officials of the Ecusta corporation are no doubt congratulating themselves on their foresight. Recently they announced that the huge plant in North Carolina would be doubled at a cost of over \$2,000,000. The enlarged plant was necessary in order to meet the demands which are being made on it by important cigarette manufacturing concerns in this country. According to executives of the company, entire output of the plant, which works on four shifts, and maintains continuous operation, is sold ahead, and increased demands for the fine paper are such that full-time operation of the enlarged plant is assured for the future.

Mr. Smith says that the mill purchases about 100,000 tons of baled flax fiber a year, principally from California, but receives some from Minnesota. Between the raw flax which is unloaded at the warehouses and the finished paper product in the storage rooms, there are nearly 1,000 people engaged in the many types of work necessary at the plant. Most of these workers have been recruited from the surrounding region and trained to carry out the processes which required years of study and experimentation.

The Ecusta plant could appropriately print on its cigarette paper "Prevent Forest Fires, It Pays."

THE FAMILY ALBUM

SUNNY SHANK

He's cheerful, enthusiastic and energetic. That's S. M. Shanklin, Improvement Superintendent of the South Carolina National Forests. Wherever he goes, on the Sumter or the Francis Marion, he leaves that enlivened evidence of his presence and the wish that he be back soon. And he rides hard so as to be back soon again.

His latest pet projects are the two recreational dams on the Long Cane of the Sumter - Lick Fork and Parsons Mountain. Shank is intensely interested in the way these projects are organized. He supplies much of the necessary spirit and everyone on the job gets a kick out of his rôle. Especially the Negro enrollee who runs that tractor and sheep's-foot roller at Lick Fork!

Shank has been with the Forest Service a good many years, beginning as a ranger in Virginia, then supervisor of the Wichita Game Preserve in Oklahoma, then road superintendent in Virginia, and, preceding his present assignment, CCC Inspector. He had the privilege of constructing the first CCC camp in the United States in the Fort Valley locality in Virginia.

In a few years, he'll be obliged to retire to his country place at Seneca, which he is grooming for that time. And we shall all hate to see him sit back and look on as much as he will hate to give up his active participation in our he-man program. But we'll know where to find him when we need a little bucking up or some friendly hospitality.

What keeps him so young and peppy in his accumulating years? I don't know, and I have pondered it often. But I have observed that he will ride hard to get to his destination early enough for his little nap before supper.

--- Chigger Pete

ARKANSAS CCC CAMP-GOES COLLEGIATE

The October 12 issue of HAPPY DAYS carries an item with a Russellville, Arkansas dateline which says in part:

"Ambitious to make the most of a golden opportunity to further their education, 19 men of Co. 3784 (SCS-8) will attend Arkansas Tech this fall. Adviser Whitten, working in conjunction with the Forest Service, made the necessary arrangements.

"David Randle, with 14, leads the men in the number of elective hours The majority of the men are members of the nursery crew - assigned to Co. 3742 (F-28) Ozone, on detached service. However, one man will enter from the SCS overhead and one from the Army overhead."

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THE IN-SERVICE TRAINING JOB

The Southern Region takes pride in the fact that it has a representative "at court" this year in the person of Donald J. Morris, one of the successful candidates for the in-service training job in the Washington office. His fellow workers in Region 8 join in congratulating Mr. Morris in winning out in such a wide and expert field. It must be remembered that Mr. Morris competed with many applicants from the entire Service, all of them with excellent qualifications and service records.

This detail is in connection with a plan worked out by the Chief's office in 1938 which made available two training positions to be filled each year about September 1 by field employees ambitious to secure Masters' degrees. The idea back of it was the development of a satisfactory "career service" by providing opportunity for Forest Service men and women to advance not only in position and grade, but also in academic standing and recognition.

Arrangements were worked out with American University in Washington, which has a degree in Public Administration, for these trainees to enroll there in after-hours courses and secure credits for about two-thirds of the necessary requirements. For the remaining third, they receive scholastic credits for the training work which they receive on the job in the Chief's office.

It is easy to see that this double duty - school and work - is no undertaking for slackers or the faint-hearted, and all prospective candidates no doubt will be interested in Mr. Morriss' account of his "internship", given in a recent letter received in this office, part of which is quoted below. We hope to have further reports from Mr. Morriss from time to time.

"....The other trainee this year is E. C. DeGraaf, formerly a Ranger in Region 9 and lately with the NEFE.

"We are assigned to work in the Region 7 office and in the various divisions of the Washington Office for periods of about six weeks each in order that we may gain an insight into the overall operation of the Forest Service. Mr. DeGraaf's initial assignment is to the Division of Personnel Management where he has been engaged on a study of the failures in Junior Forester examinations and prepa-

ration of a current W. O. organization chart. My first assignment is in Operation assisting in preparation of the 1942 budget estimates and justifications.

"Outside of working hours we are enrolled in graduate courses at the American University. We both study "The Role of the National Executive in Times of Crisis", "Constitutional and Administrative Law", and have a three hour seminar preparatory to thesis preparation. In addition, Mr. DeGraaf has a course in "Personnel Management" and I have one in "Federal Budgetary Administration". Classes are from 5 to 7:30 and 7:30 to 10 PM.

"On one afternoon each week we have a joint conference led by Mr. Keplinger, Staff Assistant in Administrative Management, in which the work assignments and outside study are correlated. Mr. Keplinger's work is that of making practical application of the principles and techniques learned to actual personnel, administrative, and management problems. Needless to say, it is the most interesting as well as the most helpful.

"In the spring, near the end of the second semester, we will be required to take comprehensive examinations in the field of National Government, Law, Budgetary Control (DeGraaf in Personnel Management) and the application of the principles of Public Administration to Forestry.

"In addition a thesis must be presented and defended. If the thesis is satisfactory and the scholastic record averages "B" or better, we are considered for an MA in Public Administration.

The entire program is quite interesting. Opportunity is afforded to attend lectures by many recognized authorities in all fields of Government work and to use the enormous facilities of the various Washington libraries. You can see from the program outlined that we will have no time for "jooking" (as used exclusively in Region 8) and that if we don't learn anything it will be our own fault."

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APPLE SPRINGS WOODWORK SHOP

During August, 1938 an unusual demand for recreational area signs and rustic structures prompted establishment of a shop at Apple Springs CCC Camp in the Davy Crockett National Forest.

A one and one-half story frame building, 30 feet wide and 40 feet long, was erected to house materials, tools and work benches. Hand tools, including chisels, saws, planes, squares, hammers and other miscellaneous items, comprise most of the equipment, and even today after two years of operation only one combination power bench saw has been added.

The shop offers unlimited opportunity for interested CCC enrollees to acquire knowledge of hand tools, wood, estimating material needs and reading plans. The Sign Handbook is used almost entirely as a basis for training members of the shop crew. It has been noted that new members gain talent in lettering, carving and reading plans in a relatively short period of time.

The following lists the type of work done at the shop.

Campground tables, plain and log
Campground benches, plain and log
Campground latrines
Frames, picture and map
Boundary line signs and posts
Fire poster display boards.
Rustic signs of all descriptions.

Although in the majority of cases cypress and cedar have been used for signs and other structures which require durable material, the "tire tube" method of treating the less durable woods with zinc chloride has been used with success. It is planned to experiment further with this treatment and as the durable woods become less available the "tire tube" method will be placed into active use.

--- Gilbert H. Stradt
Texas

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THE BULLETIN BOARD

KEEP THE DIXIE RANGER IN MIND

The following paragraph is quoted from a Nov. 1, 1940 R-8 Supplement to the Forest Service Manual.

"As stated on page GA-C2-2 (1), 'It should be the aim in both the Chief's office and in the field to make the Manual and supplemental Handbooks the primary instruction vehicle, thus rendering circular letters and other mediums less necessary.' Before a request for information from the field is prepared, every source of information at hand should be exhausted. The DIXIE RANGER should not be overlooked as a means of distributing information which is of current nature and on which a permanent record is not required."

(Editor's note: We hereby establish the "Bulletin Board" and ask that you use it for the type of information above suggested.)

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Milton B. Rickor, Assistant Forester on the Ouachita, has been transferred to the Kisatchie as Staff Assistant on Timber Management, Acquisition, and Planting.

Jack B. Pearson, Minor Assistant to Technician on the Osceola District of the Florida, has resigned to enroll in the University of Florida.

F. Randolph Hunter has been probationally appointed as Assistant Landscape Architect on the Caribbean.

Under Assistant to Technician Benjamin F. Cliatt at Camp P-70 South Carolina has tendered his resignation to accept a position with the Post Office Department.

William W. Bergoffen, District Ranger on the Bienville District of the Mississippi, has been transferred to the Division of Information and Education in the Chief's Office. He is succeeded on the Bienville by Jerry James Welch, transferring from the Biloxi. Welch is succeeded by Anson W. Lindenmuth, returning from his assignment on the NETSA.

Grady Paul Crowder, Assistant Clerk in the Finance Section of the Cherokee Supervisor's office, has resigned to accept a position in the Department of Labor at Nashville.

Probational appointment has been effected for Harold B. Stephens as Assistant Messenger in the Regional Division of Operation.

Mrs. Grace A. Hemphrey, Junior Clerk-Stenographer in the South Carolina Supervisor's office, has resigned to accept employment with the War Department.

Gerald E. Lethcoe, Game Warden on the Hiwassee District of the Cherokee, has been transferred to the Pisgah District of the Pisgah.

Junior Forester Fred M. Hestbeck has been transferred from the TVA Forestry Project in Tennessee to the Enoree District of the South Carolina, where he will be engaged on timber stand improvement activities.

Minor Assistant to Technician Robert L. Brooks on the Mississippi and Minor Assistant to Technician Ashley G. Williams on the Ouachita have been transferred to the Southern Forest Experiment Station.

Miss Evelyn M. Potter has been transferred from the Jacksonville Naval Stores District to the Regional Division of State and Private Forestry.

Transfer has been effected of Robert L. Bennett from the Prairie States Forestry Project to the Regional Division of Fiscal Control, where he is engaged as Inspector of Accounts.

Junior Forester John W. Wood has been transferred from the Watauga District of the Cherokee to the Francis Marion on the South Carolina.

The following intra-unit changes have been effected:

Florida - Edgar L. Roberts, Under Fire Guard, from the Apalachicola to the Wakulla; Mrs. Genola B. Still, Junior Clerk-Stenographer, from the Ocala to the Supervisor's Office.

Mississippi - Stanley R. Johnson, Assistant to Technician from the Bienville to the Homochitto; Louis Carl Maisenhelder, Junior Forester, and Paul E. McMillan, Junior Landscape Architect, from the Supervisor's Office to the Homochitto; Equipment Operator Mancel Garrett from the Chickasawhay to the Homochitto.

Ouachita - Equipment Operator William W. Scott from the Oden to the Jessieville; Thomas M. Heath, Minor Scaler, from the Oden to the Mena; Equipment Operator Hugh B. Ward from the Jessieville to the Fourche; Under Scaler Frank D. Mayfield from the Womble to the Mena.

Ozark - Junior Forester Norman B. Alter from the Supervisor's Office to the White Rock District.

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THE LOCKOUT

Regional Forester Kircher accompanied Assistant Regional Forester Shaw and Mr. E. E. Carter of the Washington Office on a timber management inspection trip over the Pisgah and Croatan National Forests the week of October 21.

Mr. A. C. Fernandes, Chief of the Division of Social Assistance, Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, is on a visit to the South, studying the welfare of families in forest industries. He is accompanied by Mrs. Fernandes.

Regional Forester Kircher attended the deer hunt on the Chattahoochee on November 4.

FLASH! As we go to press a copy of the "NETSA-NEFE NEWS" of November 16 is received in the office. It contains an announcement of the marriage on November 16 of Miss Rachel Lincoln to Raymond Langille, both of Boston, Mass.

Mrs. Langille was one of the "charter members" of the Regional Office employed in Timber Management for about five years. Her many friends in this Region join the NETSA-NEFE organization in wishing every happiness for Mr. and Mrs. Langille.

Announcement is made of the marriage of Miss Rebecca Louise Patton of the Regional Law Office and Hubert C. Cain, Engineering Division. They were married on November 2 at the home of Miss Patton's sister in Florence, S. C. The Regional Office extends best wishes for happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Cain.

By the way, is matrimony contagious? If so, there must be a "germ" in Mr. Mynatt's office.

**

We "see by the papers" that Madison Gordon, who for the past several months has been "engineering" on the Ozark, has been called into service by the U. S. Navy Engineering Corps at Jacksonville, Florida.

Also that Ben Duke, assigned to the Choctawhatchee, has been called to active duty at Eglin Field as a second "looney" (Cavalry). Since Eglin Field is an aviation base, we don't know what a cavalryman is to do there unless he has a "hoss" like Snuffy Smith's.

His many friends regret to learn that C. J. (Li'l Abner) Lammers, Alabama Forests, suffered a broken leg last Sadie Hawkins day. We don't know if congratulations or condolences are in order.

G. C. Bell who has had charge of the Community Chest Fund for the Regional Office reports a total collection of \$571.63.

Recent Office visitors were:

Washington Office: E. E. Walker
B. F. Kirkland
E. E. Carter
Carl S. Clancy

Other visitors were:

Major John Soule, War Department
C. F. Speh, Bureau of Agricultural
Chemistry and Engineering, USDA.
J. F. Kaylor, CCC, Washington, D. C.
Carl Bohleber, SCS, Rome, Ga.
B. F. Lufburrow, Oliver, Ga.
Sellers Vrendenburgh, Vrendenburgh, Ala.
L. E. House, District Supervisor,
Jacksonville, Florida
J. E. Dyal, Baxley, Ga.
R. M. Newton, Wiggins, Miss.

* * *

** Speaking of angels, Mr. Gordon has just come in for a call at the Regional Office and announces that he is on detail on the project now under construction at Camp Gordon, near Atlanta, and we hope to have the pleasure of many more visits from him.

"AND A LITTLE CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM"

Believing that a child can and will lead us out of the smoke and grime of our annual fire loss, District Ranger J. J. Welch, ably assisted by Tom Murphy, on Saturday November 2 staged a Forestry Field Day at the Perkinson Junior College in the heart of the Biloxi Ranger District of the DeSoto National Forest.

The feature attraction for the day was a declamation contest in two sections - one for the Biloxi District grade schools and the other for the high schools. Fourteen youngsters ranging in age from 11 to 17 years declaimed the evils of woods burning and the beneficial effects of protection. Special emphasis was given to the employment benefits of a protected forest as well as recreational and wildlife values. Each of the youngsters had their following, and applause was enthusiastic. First prize for the high school students was awarded to Ellen Oswald and the grade school prize went to Colmer Weeks.

The 50,000 watt Loyolo Station, WWL located in the Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans, La. broadcast by remote control thirty minutes of the program. Woodie Hattie, the Station Director of Agriculture, acted as announcer and interviewed Forest Supervisor B. O. Hughes, District Ranger J. J. Welch, two of the teachers and two of the participating students. The station also participated further by furnishing the award for the first and second winners of each division and their teachers an all expense trip to New Orleans, together with the privilege of broadcasting direct from the main studio of WWL. They were well entertained at the hotel and given extra consideration at a dinner-party in the hotel's famous Blue Room. Eyes sparkled when the waiter wheeled in the large ice swan appropriately lighted with subdued blue lamps. Other exciting events included the spot light on the table while Art Jarrett, the orchestra leader announced the dedication of a number to the successful contestants and their teachers.

In addition to the declamation contest, activities were provided for any that cared to enter. A pine seed guessing contest and wood identification contest proved most popular. The chopping and sawing contests brought out many contestants, even the ladies demanding an opportunity to participate in the sawing contest. Prizes for these contests were provided by local merchants and consisted of fruit, and groceries, cross cut saws and axes.

Dean of Agriculture of Mississippi State College, E. C. Colmer, gave a stirring address on the subject "The Human Element as a Factor of Success in the Forestry Program". The Perkinson College Band rendered several numbers and participated in a band

formation in which two husky woodsmen "Cut Down the Old Pine Tree". All in all many friends were made, much interest created and the DeSoto program moved forward considerably. Yes, a little child can lead, and without selfishness. We of the Service can profit by acknowledging this fact.

--- R. M. Conarro
Regional Office.

(Editor's Note: The prize-winning grade school paper is reproduced below. The high school paper will appear in next month's issue of the Dixie Ranger.)

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"Hello Everybody! I've just had the strangest dream. Would you all like to hear about it? I dreamed that the trees in the forest had summoned me to court for mistreating the members of the forest. When court opened the judge read the charge against me. They had me charged with woods' burning; for hacking trees with a hatchet; and for breaking down small trees.

"The witnesses were different trees of the forest.

"The Oak tree was the first witness to speak. "You have mistreated my family in every way possible. The desk and different things in your home are made from my family. This judge stand is a child of an oak 200 years old."

"Mahogany tree was the second witness. It said, "Little boy, the chair that you are now sitting in was made from my family. Numberless other things in your home are made from our products. They wonder why you treat them so badly! How could you? You should realize that "Waste Produces Want".

"I flinched as Pine, the next witness sprang up and said in a commanding voice, "We make it possible for red-headed matches, who are dangerous fellows and flare up if you rub them the wrong way. Every time you want light you always call on my family for this help. If it's news you're after, you have to come to us again. We make it possible for your daily paper in your home. You, nor any other intelligent boy, can do without us. Too, we are responsible for the books that you read. These books hold the wisdom of the ages and last through the years. You people are paying a quarter billion dollars yearly to Canada for pulp that we would furnish you if you would take care of our family."

"Walnut, anxious to have his say, spoke up, "Every tree of worth and grit gets its chance to do its bit. My family does its bit. The picture frames in your home are made from our family. All the frames in this court room are also. We hold your loved ones, friends, and important papers, such as the "Constitution" and "Declaration of Independence."

"The last witness that spoke was Cedar. It said, "Little boy, many pencils that you write with are made from our family. We bring joy to many American homes during Christmas time by furnishing trees to be decorated. Something else! The chests in your home are also made from my family. Do you realize what that means? It means that you can protect your clothes from moths, ants, and other insects by putting them in your cedar chests."

"After all the witnesses were heard, the judge told the jury to retire to their private room to discuss and decide the charge against me. In a few moments the jury returned with the verdict.

"That is what they said, "We, the jury, find the defendant guilty as charged".

"I drew a deep breath. Everything turned dark. Then I heard the judge's voice. Son, you have been found guilty, but I am going to free you from this charge, on account of your age, if you promise to learn how important the forest is to us and protect it in every way possible.

"Then I waked up. From then on I began to realize my debt to the trees. Right then I resolved to do my part to protect these miles of stately trees God has given to us, the people of the United States. I began to realize that our forests are a part of our inheritance. They are a sacred trust, not to be wasted, but wisely used and carefully guarded that those who come after us may share in their wealth and beauty. Right then I decided that the deadly enemy of the forest is fire. In a single day the demon of flame and smoke can wipe out the growth of centuries and turn a garden of loveliness into a lonely valley. Let's everybody form a league of patriots and have for our watchword, "Protect the Forest."

Colmer Weeks,
Perkinston Grade School

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